



THE Macdonald Farm Journal

VOLUME 17 No. 4

DECEMBER 1956

F A R M . S C H O O L . H O M E



Modern Farming is more than just Tractor Farming

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This up-to-date equipment also provides practical, low-cost material handling not available with older models.

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Right now, Allis-Chalmers dealers everywhere are featuring the unusual economy and work power of the WD-45 Tractor and 4-row, 4-plow equipment, with TRACTION BOOSTER system. These machines — priced to save farmers hundreds of dollars — are built to meet today's need for high-powered, low-cost, big-capacity farming.

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Allis-Chalmers engineering offers surprising advantages in both performance and price. The WD-45 Tractor's dynamic POWER-CRATER or diesel engine and the automatic TRACTION BOOSTER system work together to step up tillage power and reduce costs. To match the WD-45, Allis-Chalmers offers a 12½-foot double disc harrow, 4-furrow moldboard or disc plow, 4-row planters and cultivators.



New 12½-foot disc harrow levels four full stalk rows at a time. Light-draft BAL-PAK bearings never need greasing.

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At Christmas

The Christian message, and the books that our fathers called the Gospels of Christ, have been with us for nineteen centuries. Whatever one's beliefs or sectarian attachments may be, it is certain that our lives as individuals and as members of the community are more deeply affected by that message than by any other. For it was Christianity that led the West slowly and painfully up out of the wreckage of the Dark Ages to live in ways proper to men. Even the cynic, with his facile sneer at the war-torn course of history, pointing his derisive finger at the sack of Christian Constantinople by the Crusaders, or at the furies of the Thirty Years' War, must admit that our basic assumptions about the relations of man to man, our notions of law, the very castle of our minds, have been most profoundly moulded by this influence.

We know the message was given that we might live more abundantly, but our lives are busy, or we like to think of them as busy, and it is seldom enough that we think on these

things. St. Paul's admonition falls, not on ears entirely deaf, but on ears attuned too closely to the clamour of the day. Snatching at life, we fail to live as we might.

But even when all that has been said, and even admitted, Christmas still brings its ancient story of hope and regeneration with a strange freshness, stranger and yet more familiar with each succeeding year. It comes to us differently in childhood and in adolescence, in the vigour of maturity and in the quietness of age, but who shall apportion a scale of values to those different modes of experience? The humblest have not thought to do so, nor yet have the greatest. The Nativity and Childhood have engrossed alike the heart of the simplest peasant and the subtle mind of a Leonardo. Christmas brings before us a part of the Christian message in a way at once so simple and so profound that each of us rejoices as it lies in him to do: for here is the promise of inner peace, embodied in the persons of the Mother and her Child.



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Little Christmas Trees Are Big Business

Christmas trees can be a profitable sideline for many farmers, but it is not an easy money venture.

by A. R. C. Jones

THE TRADITION of the Christmas tree is said to date back to the mid-sixteenth century. Martin Luther one Christmas eve was struck by the beauty of the wintry landscape and the evergreens covered with snow sparkling in the moonlight. Returning home he attempted to reproduce the glory of the outdoors for his family by attaching some lighted candles to a small evergreen to portray the reflection of the starry heavens. The custom remained confined to the Rhine River district of Germany until, in the late eighteenth century it bridged the Atlantic when Hessian soldiers fighting in the American Revolution softened their homesickness by using trimmed Christmas trees around their bivouacs.

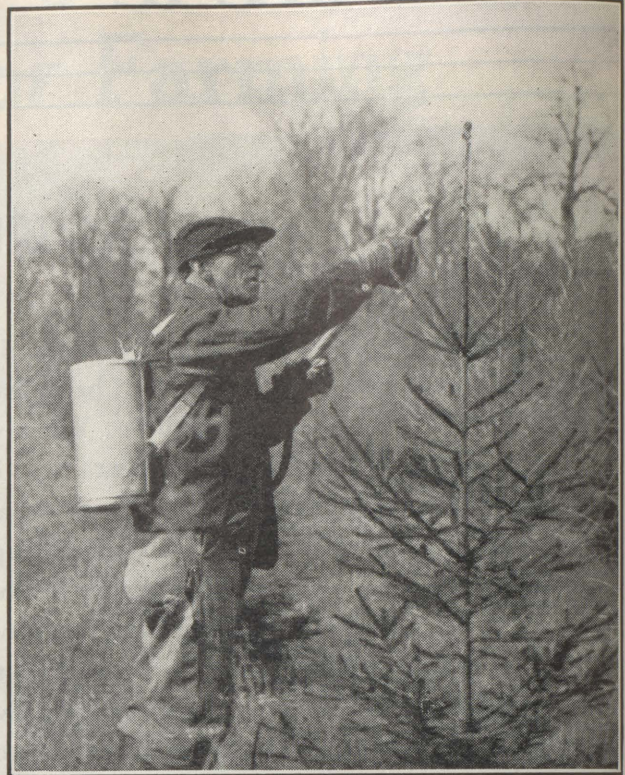
To-day in Canada it is "big business" for many woodlot owners and small operators. Besides the trees used for home consumption, over 12 million are exported for sale in the United States. Quebec's share in this export trade amounts to well over a million trees annually, and her domestic use far surpasses this mark.

Trade Requirements and Species

Prices paid by the Christmas Tree Trade vary widely, depending largely on the popular species in various markets. In New York, for instance, many Christmas tree dealers advertise "Nova Scotia Balsam", although in some cases an investigator found that the trees so marked were white spruce cut in Quebec. Trees from Nova Scotia have gained an enviable reputation over the years. Regulations there now prohibit the export of any species except balsam fir.

The features Christmas Tree buyers look for are:
 good needle-holding qualities;
 a full, bushy, symmetrical shape;
 healthy green-coloured foliage;
 a fragrant odor, limb strength to support ornaments yet springy enough so that the branches can be tied compactly for shipment without breaking or losing their form.

Several species fit these requirements, but location, type of forest, climate and land available, have led to



Spraying Norway Spruce to control insect damage to the leader. This tree has not been sheared to make a Christmas tree, and has grown tall too quickly.

marked variations in the species used in different parts of Canada.

The fir has been the tree most commonly used since early days and it is still the favourite to-day. However, many other species are gaining in popularity and even now are being widely used. Chief among these are: Scotch pine, white spruce, black spruce, red pine, Norway spruce and hemlock. In the United States, although balsam fir also leads in popularity, Douglas fir is a close second followed by black spruce. In most regions in Eastern Canada the rugged winter and dry summer makes it difficult to grow satisfactory Douglas fir.

Management of Natural Stands

In Quebec and the Maritimes the abundance of natural growth of balsam fir has discouraged much planting of its competitors. The majority of "Balsams" are cut from woodlots where they are growing in profusion. Many feel that the cutting of these "wildings" is wasteful and destructive. If it is carried out carelessly and the trees cut indiscriminately, this is true. Good forestry management is concerned with not only the perpetuation but also the wise use of woodlands. By careful selection of the trees to cut it is possible to remove those that will benefit the trees that are left. This thinning is necessary in the production of any valuable timber crop, but in this case the thinnings are also valuable.

In many cases fir seeds in so heavily that drastic thinning is required to produce well-formed, bushy trees. This operation must be performed early enough in the life of the tree so that the crown can develop in time for cutting—this means thinning 5 years or more before harvesting.

Ten to fifteen years are required to grow a balsam fir to ordinary Christmas tree dimensions—6 to 8 feet.

How to Make a Start

Farmers who want to use part of their woodlot for Christmas trees should choose several acres which are well-stocked with balsam fir seedlings and saplings and some mature trees as a seed source. All other hardwood species should be gradually removed from this acreage so that the fir have an chance to develop unhindered. This area should then be rigidly protected for Christmas tree production. If spacing can be maintained to approximately 6 feet between trees a dense, bushy growth can develop and a crop of close to 900 trees per acre should be realized.

Stump culture is now employed by experienced growers. This takes advantage of the ability of fir to produce "trees" from branches left on the stump after the first cutting. This method is useful because a second and sometimes a third tree can be grown from one stump, thus saving several years of waiting. This method can only be used if the tree is growing in the open, and the stump "turn-up" requires careful pruning not only at the time of harvest, when one side branch is left to take over as the leader, but also two to three years after this when side competition to the newly developed main stem is removed in a second pruning.

Prices for Balsam Fir

In Quebec's Eastern Townships last year prices for naturally-grown trees at the roadside ranged from a few cents to half-a-dollar for the best trees. Individuals who trucked their cut trees to "peddle" them nearer Montreal



Shortening the length of the leader of a black spruce. All lateral branches should also be sheared.

in 1955 were getting up to \$2.00 per tree and an average \$1.25 to \$1.50 for the better part of their crop.

Christmas Tree Plantations

Due to soil and climatic needs balsam is not found in the warmer, drier areas of Southern Ontario and does not grow plentifully in central Ontario. However, due to population pressure in this area the demand for Christmas trees is heavy and many individuals have found that establishing a Christmas tree plantation can be profitable and interesting. Unfortunately it is difficult to grow balsam fir in plantations as it does not respond well to planting in the open on land that would be available for this purpose, that is, dry, sandy, burnt-out agricultural land. It requires moist, reasonably well-drained, gravelly and cold sites for its best development. Thus in this part of Eastern Canada Scotch pine, a 2-needle European species, has found its "place in the sun." Great quantities of this pine are now being grown, planted and sold for Christmas trees in Ontario, and it is expected that this species will soon make its appearance on the Montreal market.

The heavy demand for agricultural land in the past has resulted in much unwise land-clearing. This has left many light, sandy areas of low fertility available for Christmas tree plantations, the pines, red and Scotch in particular, being well-adapted for good growth on these sites. This endears it to the Christmas tree producer as this type of land is cheap to buy and cheap to plant, as machines can generally be used.

Favourite in Ontario

The Scotch pine as a Christmas tree has all the desirable qualities, and in addition has an attractive bluish-cast to its needles which remain on the tree almost indefinitely. These



A plantation of black spruce, established in 1951. The trees are spaced 7 x 7 feet apart each way.

(Please turn to page 14)

How It All Began

by Muriel W. Tomkins



FOR COUNT-
LESS years, and in many lands, the Christmas tree has gladdened the hearts of men. Few of us will ever forget the breath-taking sight of our first Christmas tree! To our dazzled eyes, it was a towering forest giant whose million twinkling lights seemed to reach to the very sky and drench the air in shimmering shades of red and green and gold. From its

branches winked tinsel and glittering balls, candy canes and pine cones; mysterious packages peeked coyly from their hiding-places and begged our attention; and over all shone the stead fast light of the gleaming star that crowned its height.

To trace the origin of this charming custom is not easy, because many countries claim it as their own, and both fact and fancy support their claims. Of all the legends surrounding the Christmas tree, two of the most persistent come from Germany.

One tale has its setting in the eighth century and concerns St. Winfried of England, who left a high position in his native country to preach to the heathen in the wilds of Germany. One Christmas night, while journeying across the barren land with a small group of pilgrims, he came upon a celebration in honour of the pagan thunder god Thor, who was believed to inhabit a certain mighty oak tree. At once the saint saw that the tree must be destroyed if the superstitious faith of the people was to be broken. He seized an axe, and, as sparks flew from the axehead, the huge trunk quivered and the branches shook. Suddenly, a strong, whirling wind gripped the oak and tore it from the ground; and, there, amid the ruins, stood a young fir tree, straight and green. To the throng fallen silent with amazement, Sir Winfried, according to legend, gave the command in ringing tones:

"... here is the living tree . . . that shall be the sign of your new worship. See how it points to the sky. Call it the tree of the Christ-child. Take it up and carry it to the chieftain's hall . . . The thunder-

oak has fallen, and I think the day is coming when there shall not be a home in all Germany where the children are not gathered around the green fir tree to rejoice in the birth-night of Christ."

A second tale has it that Martin Luther once tried to explain to his wife and children the beauty of the winter forest, wherein he loved to walk under a clear, starry sky. As an illustration, he brought a little tree from the woods into the house, put lighted candles on its branches, and stood back to watch the expressions of delight and wonder on the faces of his family.

An old Scandinavian folk-tale tells of a tree which sprang from the soil where two lovers had met violent deaths and of mysterious balls of coloured lights which appeared in its branches during the Christmas season.

From thirteenth-century France comes the legend of the finding on Christmas day of a gigantic tree whose branches were decked with candles, some standing erect and some appearing to be upside down. Crowning the tree was a vision of a child with a halo around his head. The Pope declared that the tree represented mankind, the child was the Holy Saviour, and the candles were good and bad men.

Other stories, based on facts, take us all the way back to Roman times and the worship of pagan gods. For example, at a spring festival celebrating the triumph of Bacchus, the wine god, a great procession of youths and maidens bore aloft pine trees decorated with images of the god; and some writers see in the present-day Christmas tree a survival—or, really, a transformation—of this old rite.

The celebration of the winter solstice seems to have played a part in both the tradition of the Christmas tree and the appearance of lights on the tree. At that time

"MIRACLE"
LAYING MASH

MAKES THEM LAY...
MAKES THEM PAY!

230-56

of year the ancient Egyptians decked their houses with branches of the date palm, which symbolized immortality, or the triumph of life over death, as evidenced in the renewal of each year. Incidentally, the date palm was also an emblem of the starlit firmament. At about the same time of year the Jews celebrated their Feast of Chanukah with prayers and lighted candles; the Greeks had a festival which they called the "Feast of Lights"; and the Chinese kept their "Feast of the Lanterns".

All of these legends and customs linked themselves together to establish the Christmas tree as a permanent tradition which rooted itself firmly in Germany in the fifteenth century, as an authentic manuscript of the period attests. At first only the villages along the Rhine river adopted the practice; but soon the Christmas tree, lighted with candles and covered with gaily-wrapped gifts, found its way into homes, rich and humble, throughout Germany.

From Germany the custom spread to England, France and America—to each country in a different way. In the year 1840, Victoria, Queen of England, married her beloved Albert, a German prince; and, through his influence, the Christmas tree was brought to England and became an established tradition. An "Illustrated London News" of the period remarks that "the Christmas tree is somewhat more of a German than an English custom", and goes on to describe in vivid terms the tree at Windsor

Castle—the first to appear in an English-speaking country. It was "a young fir about eight feet high", having six tiers of branches, each bearing a dozen wax tapers, and hung with baskets filled with sweetmeats, "fancy cakes and gilt gingerbread". At its foot were "piles of sweets of a larger kind (and) toys and dolls of all descriptions", while "on the summit of the tree (stood) the small figure of an angel, with outstretched wings, holding in each hand a wreath."

German troops brought the Christmas tree to France in the grim days of 1870, when the two countries were at war and Paris was occupied by the enemy. Soon, the French people adopted the custom. Finally, the tradition was established in America by the vast numbers of German emigrants who left their homes in the early days of the nineteenth century and turned their faces hopefully toward the new world.

This year, as before, a Christmas tree sends its soft glow through a window or holds itself proudly erect on a snow-covered lawn, delights a child and brings back to his parents nostalgic memories of other Christmases. Always it is found bearing the patient, centuries-old message expressed by the hymn:

*All glory be to God on high,
And on the earth be peace!
Good-will henceforth, from heaven to men
Begin and never cease.*




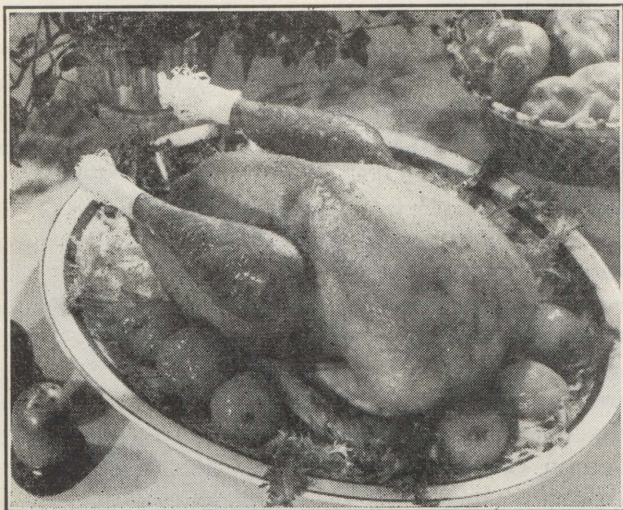
Front Porch Professor

One way to find the best tractor tire is to try out each brand for yourself. But the trial and error system is pretty inefficient and expensive.

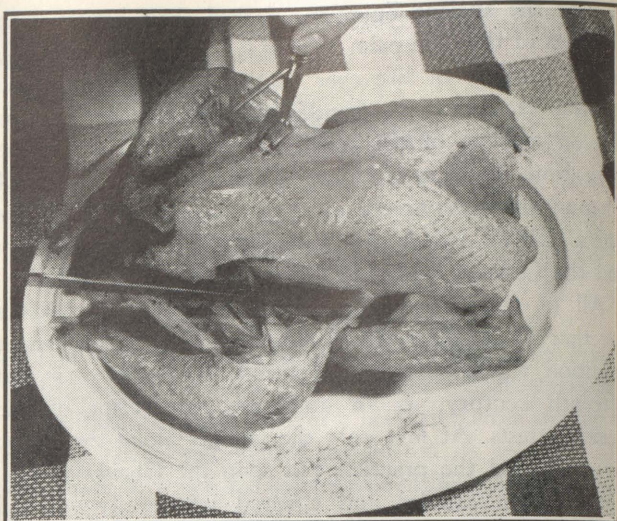
We suggest you ask the man who's been farming all his life. Find out what brand of tractor tire *he* prefers over all others.

He'll tell you Goodyear Super Sure-Grips will do the same work in less time than other brands—or more work in equal time. Obviously, the tires preferred by most Canadian farmers are the tires for you to buy.

GOODYEAR  **SUPER SURE-GRIP TRACTOR TIRES**



Prelude: a Christmas turkey, ready for a hungry family. Before starting to carve, turn the platter so that the turkey's breast is on the carver's left. (All these pictures were taken with the camera facing the carver).



Step 1. The first operation is to remove the leg on the side away from the carver by making a cut through the skin between the body and thigh and around the hip joint.

Carving Your Festive Turkey

by W. A. Maw

WHO WOULD think of a Christmas dinner without turkey? Not many Canadians—that's for sure! To most of us, being without a turkey for Christmas dinner would be almost as bad as having a member of the family missing. Turkey for Christmas dinner has been the time honored custom almost since this country first began.

What more enjoyable picture can be imagined than a Canadian farm family sitting around the table with father getting ready to carve a turkey? Probably every father has his pet way to carve. To some it is child's play; to others it is a real job. What is it like in your family? If you have difficulties, then you may appreciate

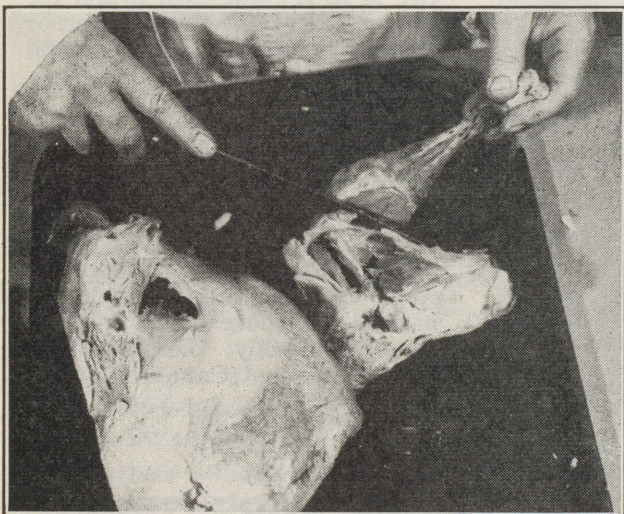
the few simple instructions that are graphically illustrated here

Aims in carving a turkey:

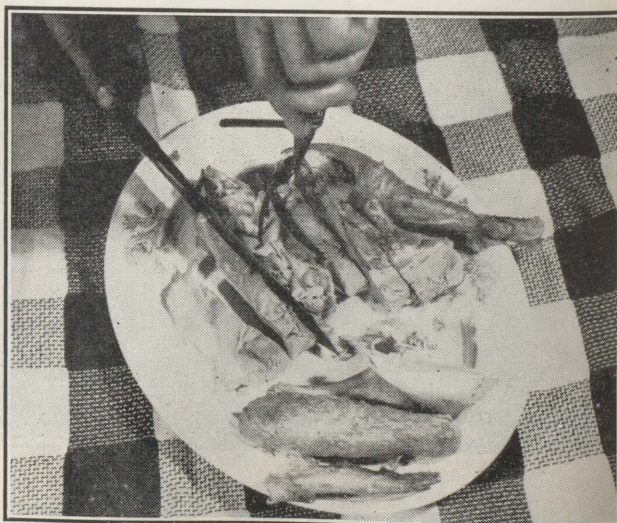
- to supply equal portions of both white and dark meat on each plate.
- to carve so neatly that the thin, clean-cut slices could be replaced on the carcass without it looking messy.

Tools required:

- Sharp, long-bladed carving knife.
- carving fork.
- serving spoon for dressing.
- steel for keeping knife sharp.
- small side platter.



Step 2. Transfer the leg to another platter or plate and disjoint the thigh and the drumstick.



Step 3. Slice the meat off the drumstick and cut the thigh meat into several sections, depending on the size of the serving wanted.

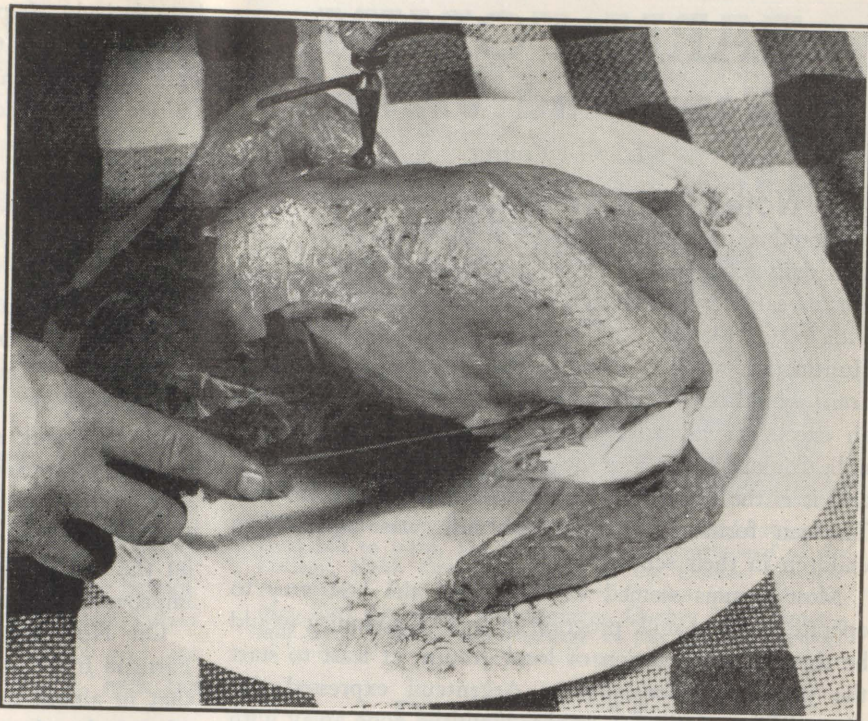
Special hints:

For neatness and that all-round professional look, completely finish one side of carcass, including serving, before starting the other.

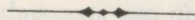
After the one side has been completely carved, proceed on the second side in a similar fashion, with the exception that the carcass may be reversed on the platter for convenience, thereby placing the front of the bird to the carver's right. Do not serve all the meat on the carcass at the first serving. Allow for a possible second serving.

If the cooked carcass is to be carved in the kitchen for plate serving, the procedure may be somewhat simpler. The carcass is placed on a meat cutting board or on a platter. The wings and legs are removed as described. The leg meat is carved by holding the leg or drumstick in your left hand and the thigh meat is sliced down to the joint and finally the thigh bone is removed as a portion with meat on it. The leg meat on the drumstick is then sliced downward on to the board or platter making several slices of meat.

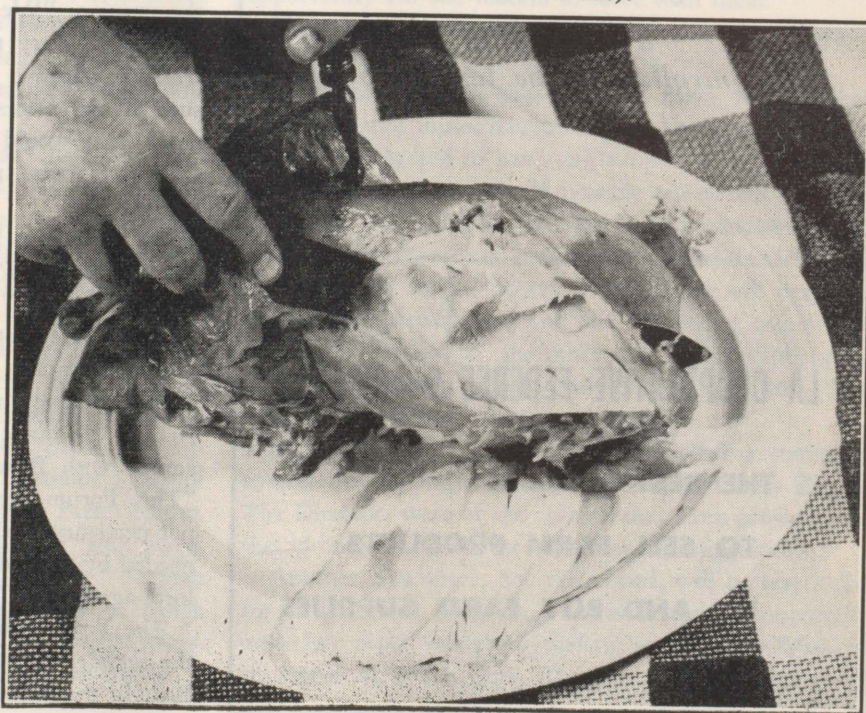
The breast meat is then quickly carved by holding the carcass by the rump section, up off the board or platter, but resting on the point of the shoulder. The white meat is then sliced downward from the breast bone or keel to the shoulder. Holding the carcass as described gives a firm surface for cutting, thus making slicing easier. The white meat over the shoulder may also be sliced off by turning the carcass over to the side after the breast area has been carved.



Step 4. Remove the wing by cutting through the joint of the wing at the shoulder. Discard the outer tip. Divide the wing into two sections for serving.



Step 5. Slice the white meat thinly, as the plates containing parts of the leg and wing are being served. Slice the full length of the keel. Put a spoonful of dressing on each plate when serving the white meat. (Make a horizontal cut across the abdominal section for this).



FARM FORUM

News and Views

L. G. Young

Notes on Discussion Topics

Should a program be developed to supply milk to all Canadian school children? 97.8% of the Quebec Farm Forums said very definitely "yes", when discussing "School Milk" last October 29th. The Gore Farm Forum in Huntingdon replied, "Yes—Would be of benefit to children; would benefit farmers as more milk would be sold; an excellent way to use surplus; would help form the milk drinking habit; it is the cheapest drink on the market; and it is the best food obtainable—a real body builder." Thirteen forums answered that milk was available to children in their schools.

Most forums seemed to think that the best way to operate a school milk program in their community would be through co-operation of local groups; at least to start the project. Ogdensburg in Argenteuil expressed this view: "First of all soft drinks should be done away with in all schools. We feel they are not needed there at all. Then a milk program could be started by local groups—Farm Forums, Lions Clubs, Rotary and others." However, some others answered as Campbell's Bay in Pontiac. "We have two consolidated schools in our area and it would

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be relatively simple for either of the two local dairies to deliver milk at a specified time." They thought that milk consumption would increase sufficiently to reward dairies who helped with such a program.

Sharing the cost among local groups, complete government financing, and complete pupil financing were the three ways the forums proposed for paying the cost of such a program. About half the forums preferred sharing the cost. Those who thought children should pay for the milk said that if the pupils paid for it they would appreciate milk more than if somebody gave it to them for nothing. Dunkin in Brome decided that government should support the program. Their answer was, "We think that milk should be given free of charge to any children who cannot afford to pay for it. In building up a healthy nation a lot of doctor bills might be prevented and the national health insurance plan would be lots easier on the federal budget. At the same time it would help improve the situation in the Canadian dairy industry."

On November 5th the Forums considered, "Should Farmers Invest in Marketing". They agreed unanimously that in almost every area of the province the marketing of agricultural products could be, and should be, improved. They did not all agree, however, that farmers could improve marketing by investing in marketing facilities.

Asked how farmers should make their investments in marketing, 19 said the best way was through co-operatives. "They could invest in co-ops—in education—in advertising—and keep everlastingly at it!", was the reply of Farm Point in Gatineau. Others thought they could invest in storage facilities, advertising, in improvement of the quality of product, and indirectly by supporting their farm organizations. Mount Loyal in Montcalm expressed the opinion, "We don't feel that investment by farmers would help very much as far as money goes. If farmers tried to improve their products so that they would be sure of top prices, such as better herds and better seed crops, that would be an investment that might pay off." Several Forums replied that marketing required more study.

"What About Farm Management"—When could such a service be used? Eleven Forums answered as Mountain Road in Brome, "A farm management service would help young farmers starting out." Other answers indicated specific instances in which it could be used. Bulwer in Compton gave three circumstances; marketing, planning running of farm, and farmers using credit. Ten forums agreed with Brownsburg Road, Argenteuil, which said, "This Forum feels that a farm management service is not necessary in this community and that any information needed by the individual farmer can be obtained from the local agronomist."

The Forums did not agree as to who should pay for the service. Fourteen said the government while thirteen thought the farmer should pay part of the cost. As to who

should be responsible for operating such a service, seventeen answers agreed with North Clarendon in Pontiac that "since our farm organizations are "loosely" organized in this province, and since farmers resent advice from commercial groups, we thought this was the field of the provincial Department of Agriculture." There were seven other suggestions about operating a farm management service. They included universities, farm organizations, commercial organizations and combinations of these. Fordyce in Missisquoi had another idea; "The best service of this kind to date in this country is that given by the V.L.A. Settlement officers. Since their task is decreasing, we feel that their setup could be expanded to serve everyone."

Forum Whisperings

In two areas the forums are following up the "School Milk" broadcast with action. The Cookshire Forum has already approached the Women's Institute and the Home and School about a program for the Cookshire School. Sawyerville, East Clifton, and High and Low Forest have met with the principal of their school and are considering ways and means of instituting a "milk for pupils" program.

Money Raising Schemes

Many forums have reported money raising schemes that they are undertaking. One very ambitious forum, Dalhousie Station, held a dance in Alexandria, Ont., to raise their fees.

Fordyce Forum enclosed this little note with their findings last week. "This fall a carload of Forum members pulled up at a picnic table beside the highway near Lennoxville for lunch. They had a feeling of being among friends as they read the plate on the table—"Placed here by the Ives Hill & Drapers Corner Forum". This is one kind of action project that encourages visitors as well as beautifying the roadside. And it's possible to see picnic tables in many places; places as far apart as Pontiac and Sherbrooke Counties.

Some Forums are making sure that their ideas are publicized. The Radford Forum sends a report of their meeting to the Shawville Equity each week. It often succeeds in making the front page too. As well, Forum reports have been appearing in several other local papers.

Brome, Missisquoi, Shefford, and Rouville County Forums met together in the Knowlton High School on Nov. 5th. Over 150 persons were present. After listening to the usual Forum broadcast, they heard Mr. Dan Murphy explain different aspects of the Quebec Agricultural Marketing Law. The Extension Methods Class of Macdonald College, who have their own Farm Forum, also attended. As the thirteen students come from places as far away as the British West Indies, British Columbia and the Maritimes, those present were able to exchange information on marketing practices in the different areas. The evening proved to be quite enjoyable for everyone.



The joint meeting at Macdonald College brought together, from left to right, Dr. H. G. Dion, Vice-principal of the College, Keith Greig, president of the Quebec Farmers' Association, Reg Hodge, president, Quebec Farm Forums, Mrs. Carl Anderson, vice-president, Quebec Farm Forums, and Cyril Dahms, vice-president of the Quebec Farmers' Association.

Directors Meet at Macdonald College

Representatives of the Quebec Farm Radio Forum and the Quebec Farmers' Association, met in November and dealt with twenty-nine items of business. These covered working relations between the two organizations, their program for the duration of the year, and administrative questions. At noon they were guests of Macdonald College at a luncheon in Glenaladale. Many staff members were present and the luncheon provided an excellent opportunity for the officers to meet with them.

Following are some of the more important decisions of the meeting.

In order to relate the National Farm Radio Forum broadcasts and topics more closely to the provincial situation, it was agreed to have two supplementary provincial topics during the season. If possible one would be before Christmas and one after. No provincial broadcast has been planned, but there will be a provincial information sheet corresponding to the "Guide". One topic will deal with the new marketing law and the marketing commission. Although not definite, the other may be on co-operatives and the trading facilities they offer. Committees have been set up to carry out these projects.

Mrs. Anderson, vice-president, will chair a committee to deal with all suggestions or questions sent in by Forums. The Directors were of the opinion that more consideration should be given to Forum questions and suggestions.

Another committee, not yet named, will be responsible for a rural youth program. They will work in conjunction with any other interested agency, such as the Women's Institutes, or youth clubs. The aim is to acquaint young

farmers with farm organizations, and at the same time provide them with a means of meeting others their own age from different districts of the province. Another objective of the program is to interest young people in the farm, and to assist them in club and fair work. Mrs. Taylor, secretary of the Women's Institutes, attended the meeting while this question was being considered.

In view of the expanding program, the meeting agreed that Ross Oswald and the secretary should spend a day with the Extension Department of the University of Vermont and with the County Farm Bureau, American Farmers' Organization. The purpose of the visit is to gather information about the work that those agencies are doing. It will also acquaint them with Farm Radio Forum and all parties concerned should benefit by the exchange of information.

Fees and the method of collection were also discussed. All agreed that there would be no change from last year, and that the deadline for payment should again be December 15th.

One other motion was to ensure co-operation between the Quebec Farm Radio Forum and the Quebec Farmers' Association. All present agreed that until such time as the Quebec Farmers' Association was considerably stronger, the two organizations would meet together.

The semi-annual meeting of the Farm Forums was also considered. There was general agreement that in the past the importance of this meeting has not been stressed enough, and that this year a real effort should be made to have it a success. A committee was organized to plan the program and publicize it, as the Directors thought that many forum members were not familiar with the assistance received from the Co-operative Federee which holds its annual meeting at the same time, and which provides a meeting place for the Farm Forums.

Secretary's Notebook

November and December are always the months when the clamour for a fieldman is at its height. Last year I was able to do a limited amount of travelling, enough to start several new forums. However, last year the office work was much less of a load. This season the office

received as much mail in one day as it sometimes did in a week before. It is quite apparent that the possibility of my doing any appreciable amount of fieldwork, instead of increasing, is rapidly vanishing. This fact is further augmented by the expanded provincial program being undertaken. For weeks I have been trying to arrange my work to have one free week either in the first half of December or January. It appears now that there isn't any possibility of leaving the office till the second week of February when it will be too late to do effective work because of unpredictable weather and the advanced season.

When looking at the question of the fieldman, one should consider why a fieldman is needed, and the work that he would be required to do. He would be expected (a) to organize more forums or farmers (b) persuade them or prove to them that organization is in their best interests (c) deal with local questions or problems. It would seem that if rural people were convinced that organizations were worthwhile, they would join with very little prompting. Also, if farm organizations are serving a useful function, farmers will immediately recognize their value and convincing them to organize will not be necessary. Lastly, in most cases, if the program is sufficiently interesting and valuable, persons will develop in the organization who can deal with local problems. In other words, if the program is what it should be, the need for the fieldman would decline.

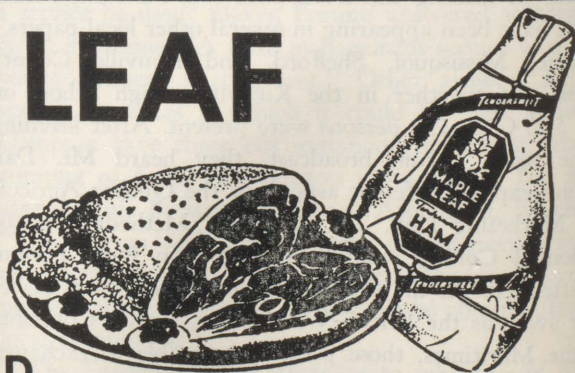
It would appear then that concentration on program will be more beneficial in the long run than much dashing about the country. We are trying to do just that. In the process it is probable that fieldwork will suffer. But is it better to work for a stable organization or each year go around and persuade the individual farmer to join?

This is not to argue that a fieldman would not be an asset. But I think that the arguments in favour of an appointment being proffered today are current and synthetic, and arise because of lack of program. Recent action would indicate that this situation will be remedied, though for this year we may lose some forums by so doing. That is up to the members.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec
Department of Agriculture*

Quebec At The Royal

Canada's show window of agriculture, the Royal Winter Fair completes the agricultural events of the year. Free of the "attractions" associated with the summer fairs, its appeal depends entirely on agricultural exhibits. Successful exhibitors from local and provincial fairs across the country compete for recognition as top breeders and exhibitors. This show gives them an opportunity to advertise on a competitive basis. Agricultural officials, fieldmen and farmers attend the show and each class of animals is watched from the ringside by an interested audience.

Quebec breeders took an active part as exhibitors, and topped many classes. In the Ayrshire show, Bonnieshade Pretty Girl was grand champion cow for her owners, S. Wyman MacKechnie & Sons of Wyman, A. E. McArthur, Howick, took Reserve Grand Champion with Cherry Bank Buttercup 41st. Other Ayrshire winners included J. G. Wilson, St. Valentin, who won the Lessnessock Challenge Trophy for the best herd of four Ayrshires, R. R. Ness and Sons, Howick, the Alderwood Challenge Trophy for the best graded herd and the Premier Exhibitor Award. The Stansell Challenge Trophy for the best aged cow in milk went to McArthur.

In the Jersey classes Pierre Veillon, Sweetsburg, took the Jersey female Grand Championship, the Buck Trophy and the Lindsey Trophy for the highest combined milk and fat production with Brampton Sybil J. Beason.

In Canadians, the winners were O. A. Fowler who won the female Grand Championship and the J. A. Couture Trophy with Lone Oak Luce 5x, and Marcel Sylvestre of St. Hyacinthe, who had reserve on Sylvestre Rosanne 3G.

Quebec horse breeders also took a number of the top placings, and winners included Ernest Sylvestre of St. Hyacinthe who had Mignonne de la Victoire for Grand Champion Canadian standard mare and Brunette 2nd in reserve. Gilbert Arnold of Grenville had the Grand Champion Canadian stallion, Arnoldwold Dolinor and Arnoldwold Dollar for reserve. Mr. Arnold claimed a total of 7 firsts, 12 seconds, 6 thirds, a junior and a senior championship and two junior and one senior reserve championship in addition.

Hooker Bros. of Ormstown took a good share of the top placings in Yorkshire swine, and L. T. Porter of St. Andrews East took top placings in Aberdeen Angus classes.

Just as at any other fair or exhibition, there are things about the Royal that could stand changing. Experienced livestock men are aware of the limitations of the show ring, where appearance is apt to be thought more important than economic considerations. Officials in the livestock world are aware of this, and are attempting to revise classifications and qualifications so that winning animals also approach the economic ideal. The various breed Sales of Stars which were inaugurated during the past six years indicate that the value breeders place on these animals does not always correspond with show ring placings.

The Royal is a great show, and the crowds are attracted not only by the outstanding exhibition displays of livestock and other agricultural displays, but also by the various government and commercial exhibits, which are an education in themselves.

More About Quebec's 4-H Clubs

We have received the following comments on our story of the 4-H Clubs in Quebec from Mr. J. A. Breton, General Secretary, 4-H Clubs, Inc. They help to clear up some points that might have caused confusion in some people's minds about club work in the Province of Quebec.

"The first 4-H Club in Canada was organized in 1942 by the Quebec Forestry Association; the name 4-H was borrowed from the United States but the 4-H did not have the same meaning. The emblem was not the same either. In 1950, after a series of meetings with the Canadian Council on Boys and Girls club work, we granted them permission to use the name 4-H for agricultural clubs in the other provinces; they took the American name and emblem.

"But in Quebec, the only official 4-H clubs are still the ones sponsored and promoted by the Quebec Forestry Association; their main objective is the conservation of the forests and natural resources; they do not teach agriculture at all, because there are already two other

groups taking care of that aspect, both under the direction of the Department of Agriculture. These are *Les Cercles De Jeunes Agriculteurs* (Young Farmers' Clubs), the director of which is Mr. Jean Chs. Magnan, and *Les Cercles De Jeunes Eleveurs* (Young Cattle Breeders' Clubs), directed by Mr. Ernest Dube. Until this year, the latter were organized and promoted directly by the Federal Department of Agriculture. The official names of these two groups are still the same, although they are members of the Canadian Council on 4-H Clubs. In some English-speaking districts, such as the Eastern Townships, the clubs are using the identification 4-H more and more, although it is not officially recognized by the Quebec Department.

The 4-H Forestry Clubs are sponsored by the Quebec Forestry Association, which, in turn, is financed by the pulp and paper industry, the lumber industry, the various municipal, county, provincial and federal governments, Canadian industry at large, and the public, each of which contributes twenty percent."

Gold Seal Ayrshires

Eleven Quebec Ayrshire cows have recently passed the 100,000 pound mark in milk production and have been awarded the Gold Seal Certificate. This is given in recognition of longtime production feats of which the breed has an enviable reputation and as a demonstration of registered Ayrshire lasting power.

Ecole d'Agriculture, Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere, had three winners in this group of longtime producers. Two of them, Pilote De Urgel and Pilote D'Ursel, were by the same sire, Penshurst Man O' War 15th. Pilote de Urgel is type classified "Excellent" and has produced 115,666 pounds of milk, 4,589 pounds of fat in twelve lactations. Pilote D'Ursel has 102,794 pounds of milk, 3,930 pounds of fat to her credit in nine lactations. Pilote De Vouille, also owned by the Ecole d'Agriculture, has produced 121,572 pounds of milk, 5,154 pounds of fat, 4.24% in nine lactations. This is an average of 13,508 pounds of milk, 573 pounds of fat for each lactation. She is also classified "Excellent".

J. D. MacDougall, Ormstown, has two winners among the group. Meadowcroft Louise 3rd, who has produced 104,262 pounds of milk, 3,800 pounds of fat in ten lactations and Meadowcroft Ruth's Gem with 106,515 pounds of milk, 4,122 pounds of fat in twelve lactations.

Victoire Levisienne a "Very Good" cow bred and owned by College de Levis, Levis, has produced 104,843 pounds of milk, 4,283 pounds of fat in nine lactations.

Heliodore Dube, St. Eusebe has a winner in his "Good Plus" cow—Linette. She produced 107,019 pounds of milk, 4,513 pounds of fat testing 4.22% in ten lactations.

Des Ravins Reinette, owned by Succession d'Edmond Godin, Ste. Scholastique has produced 104,856 pounds of milk, 3,806 pounds of fat in ten lactations to win her Gold Seal Certificate.

Rosa, a "Very Good" cow owned by Joseph Boulay, St. Thomas d'Aquin, has produced 102,594 pounds of milk, 4,353 pounds of fat in eight lactations. This is an average of 12,826 pounds of milk, 519 pounds of fat testing 4.23% for each of her first eight R.O.P. records.

Leitchcroft Scholar's Gem 2nd, owned by Roland Pigeon, Vercheres and classified "Very Good" has produced 117,063 pounds of milk, 4,648 pounds of fat in ten lactations.

Gerald A. Roy, Howick, has a winner in Oakburn Bell. She produced 102,481 pounds of milk, 3,951 pounds of fat in twelve lactations.

Salon Promises New Items

Plans for the fifth National Salon of Agriculture are well underway, with the show set for the Show Mart in Montreal for the 8th to the 17th of February next, and many new features are being prepared to make this the biggest and best show yet.

The theme chosen for the 1957 edition of the Salon is "The Family", and a contest through which the "Family of the year" will be chosen is being organized by the St. Jean Baptiste Society. The winners will be publicly proclaimed and introduced during the week of the Salon.

Another new venture will be a miniature fat stock show and sale. The Quebec Beef Cattle Association is arranging for a representative herd of beef cattle, including Angus, Hereford and Shorthorns, to be on display in a prominent part of the vast hall. They will be placed by Prof. L. H. Hamilton of Macdonald College, and will then be sold at auction; the idea being, of course, that the city folk who come to the Salon in such great numbers, will be interested in seeing how a cattle sale works, and what their steaks and roasts look like on the hoof. The animals will be kept at the Salon for the rest of the week, with the name of the breeder, and of the purchaser of each prominently displayed.

There are "Queens" of practically everything these days, and this winter a Quebec Dairy Queen will be crowned at the Salon. This particular item of the programme is being planned by the popular Secretary of the Quebec Holstein Club, Hermas Lajoie, and the Queen will be chosen following a contest, held during the show, where wives and daughters of Holstein breeders will demonstrate their prowess in milking cows.

Another new feature will be a contest between the various hatcheries in Quebec, featuring day-old chicks, and it is expected that this will be of great interest to poultry breeders as well as to the general public.

The square dance competitions which proved so popular last year will be widened in scope. Women's clubs in the districts of Montreal, St. John, Ste. Martine, St. Hyacinthe, the Laurentians and the St. Maurice Valley are arranging for local elimination contests, and the winners of each will come to the Salon to compete for a provincial title.

Last year's quiz contests on general farming knowledge proved so much to the taste of farmers visiting the show that they will be provided again this winter, with a larger number of prizes available. And all these features will be, of course, in addition to the displays of equipment, materials, and so forth that serve two purposes; to acquaint the farmer with the latest developments in his

field, and to show the city people something of life on the farm.

All the booth space has already been spoken for, and major exhibits will be coming from Ontario, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, the United States and Quebec. Remember the dates: February 8th to 17th, 1957.

Granby Co-operative Reviews Progress

THE eighteenth annual meeting of the Granby Co-operative, the largest organization of its kind in the country, brought out the usual large crowd of members. There are 1255 regular members on the lists, and by the size of the attendance it would appear that most of them had come to the meeting held on November 29th at Granby.

A general review of the achievements of the past year was given by the new manager, Philippe Pariseault, who was appointed following the resignation of Mr. Bonin during the summer. It was obvious from the way he answered the questions that came from the floor that he has a good grasp of the operations of the co-operative, and a rather different idea as to its future progress than his predecessor had. For the coming year he envisages a programme of consolidation of the present position, with expansion curtailed to the minimum; no new construction will be undertaken, and every effort will be made to reduce the cost of operations in all departments.

In the sales field, more attention will be paid to the domestic market, reserving the export sales for surplus that cannot be absorbed at home. A reorganization of the sales department has resulted in the elimination of the three divisions, domestic, export and commercial, which in the past have operated each under its own manager and with its own staff. There will be in future one sales manager and fewer salesmen, with a resultant reduction in selling costs.

Also, a survey is to be made throughout the co-operative with a view to reducing labour costs by mechanizing all the operations possible, and a study to determine each employee's duties will cut out much overlapping of effort.

Business Higher

Total sales for the year through the co-operative amounted to \$9,264,806.62 which is a jump of 36% over the previous year, and the gross profit of \$578,569.45 was 80% over last year's. This figure is the difference between total sales and cost of buying and transforming the products, and does not include administration and selling expenses, where it is hoped to make a substantial saving next year.

Artificial insemination is offered free to members

during the winter, as one way of increasing the winter milk supply as well as bringing about a general improvement in herd quality among shippers. The total of 2,729 cows inseminated during 1955-56 is about half as many again as in 1954-55. This policy of free winter service will be continued.

A large increase in the business done by the farm machinery department is accounted for by the fact that the department has been completely reorganized for more efficient work, and also that through arrangements with the Co-operative Federee the Granby Co-operative distributes the "Oliver" machines in its district. Increase in business of this department was 134%.

During the year the co-operative built and sold its 500th farm milk cooler, proof that its members are taking seriously the urging of the management to improve the quality of their milk, so that the manufactured product may meet competition on a quality basis. A glance at the comparative sales values, \$148,744.05 in 1955-56 compared with \$18,926.27 the previous year makes this obvious. These coolers, by the way, are sold to members at cost, and a premium of 10¢ is paid for cooled milk.

New Directors Elected

At the 1955 meeting it was voted that a change should be made in the selection of directors; that the territory covered by the membership should be divided into fifteen districts, each containing as nearly as possible the same number of members, and that each district elect one director. Following elections (five by ballot, the remainder by acclamation) the following will hold office for this year: J. O. Deslauriers, Granby, re-elected president; Isadore Martin, vice-president; Ad. Baillargeon, Louis Barre, Raymond Bessette, Eric St. François, Ed. Bourbonnais, C. A. Chagnon, Gerard Beauchemin, Nelson Bernier, G. Morrisette, Donat Ducharme, L. Larose, F. Meunier and Armand Bernier. With all this business, expenses cut down the gross profit to a mere \$23,087.26 available for patronage dividends, and the grain department was the only one that showed a profit on the year's operations. In consequence, according to the custom in this co-operative, members who had done business with this department were the only ones that shared in the patronage dividends.

Dairy

In the dairy products department, the largest single part of the business, the three plants operated by the co-operative, at Granby, Notre Dame du Bon Conseil and La Perade, received and transformed 206,000,000 pounds of milk, an increase in volume of 33% over last year. But as has been pointed out in previous annual reports, it is only through high volume that the plants can be operated economically, and the directors are hoping to see an improvement of at least 30% in total milk handled next year. Winter milk is the crux of the whole matter; if volume in the winter time could be raised everyone would be much happier.

All three plants processed more milk than last year, with the biggest increase at Notre Dame du Bon Conseil. The volume at La Perade stayed about the same, and at Granby, which is supplied only by members of the co-operative, the increase was about 15%.

Grain

The cost of feed to members was reduced during the year, and this accounts for the fact that in the grain department, although there was an increase from 164,987 to 169,165 bags sold, the sales value dropped by \$5,061.32. Total sales for 1955-56 were \$627,796.94.

Other Services

The hatchery business showed an increase of 64% in total business, sales amounting to \$119,613.33. It sold 560,815 day-old chicks, well over twice as many as the previous year, and the percentage hatch was 72.8, about the same as last year.

(Continued from page 3)

qualities make it a favourite to the purchaser and so everybody's happy! It is unusual nowadays to see anything but Scotch pine or red pine, a close relative native to Canada, used in the home in Southern Ontario. Both these species attain their best development on dry sandy to sandy-loam soils and should not be planted in wet or poorly-drained locations. Scotch pine can adapt to these conditions better than red and it has a faster growth rate—although this is not always desirable in Christmas trees as pruning-back the leader and side branches (shearing) then becomes necessary to keep the tree compact and bushy.

Presently these pines are selling at close to a dollar, for best quality trees, at the roadside.

Plantation Establishment and Care

Most plantations are started by buying planting stock from the commercial nurseries, of which there are several supplying good quality 3 to 4-year old seedlings ready

for field planting, or from the Department of Lands and Forests, who also put out good stock. Field planting size should not be smaller than 10 inches nor much bigger than 20 inches. It requires 1,740 trees per acre if the recommended 5 x 5 foot spacing is used. If the land is suitable for machine-planting, light soil with few rock outcroppings, stumps or scrub, up to 1,000 seedlings an hour can be placed. After the plantation is established it may take five to eight years before cropping can commence.

The suggested practice is to remove all the trees and start over again, or interplant with red pine. These last are left as a timber crop for the future. Scotch pine is not a desirable timber species, but it can be used for pulpwood.

After planting, growth is slow while the root system is developing. It then speeds up which, unless controlled, results in a tree bushy at the base and spindly on top. Shearing commences three to four years after planting so that double and long leaders and side branches are cut back to obtain density and balance. The time at which this is done is during the growing season, from mid-June to early July before the new growth hardens-off. The spruces and fir are pruned back to a side-bud, when they have stopped growing during the autumn or winter. No pruning should be carried out the year that the tree is cut for market. Insect control is also necessary in many areas in order to produce high quality trees.

Future Possibilities

It is still too early to predict the future for Christmas tree plantations in Quebec. But if the returns now being received in Ontario by many growers is any criterion, a small investment in this field would appear worthwhile to an owner who has the land available for such purposes. In Ontario many growers predict that in the next four years there will be a considerable surplus and prices will undoubtedly go down for a period at least. The excellent balsam regeneration obtained in Quebec would suggest that woodlot owners who are close to a suitable market would be well-advised to manage part of their natural stands for this crop.

A Scholarship Winner

Compton County Women's Institute is one of the several sponsoring a scholarship for High School graduates going on for advanced training. This is the "Hon. C. D. French Memorial Bursary" and is awarded annually. The winner this year is Miss Ina Cummings, Sawyerville, who has entered Bishop's University. Congratulations to Miss Cummings and best wishes for continued success.

The Farm and the Market

by The Staff of the Economics Department
of Macdonald College

The Prime Minister Says —

The *Montreal Gazette* reported on November 21st that Prime Minister St. Laurent says that a large amount of poor farmland in Eastern Canada should be returned to forestry and the occupants resettled on better soil. The Prime Minister is reported to have said: "I am convinced that some of the land in Eastern Canada that hard-working Canadians are trying to use as farms should go back to forest and water conservation uses and those attempting to live on them resettled in more rewarding surroundings." The Prime Minister felt that farm incomes would be improved by producing more food on better farmland. We agree wholeheartedly, provided that the occupants of poor farmland are assisted onto better farmland or into better-paying jobs off the farm.

A Remedy For Failing Farms —

Proceeding on an area-by-area basis an eastern farm rehabilitation agency could buy up, with generous compensation to the present owners, those farms that have failed to produce a minimum income per person over a recent period of years. These farms could then be re-organized into economic farm or forestry units as far as the amount of land, buildings, basic drainage etc., are concerned. The reorganized units could then be resold to screened applicants who would be assisted with credit and technical information. Some of the original owners would be among the successful applicants for the new units, but the rest would be assisted into more suitable and remunerative occupations. The proposed eastern farm rehabilitation agency might well begin with an annual budget of ten millions.

What Prices Say

According to *Farm News* (Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis) two leading U.S. economists, Heady and Heer, interpret the prices of farm products as follows: Through our pricing system, consumers are saying that we need fewer farmers and more producers of other goods. "We need somewhat fewer farms, and farms should tend to become somewhat larger, so that, while they can still be operated as family farms, they can take advantage of lower costs per unit of production to make favorable profits at the market prices consumers are willing to pay for food in relation to other things." We believe that this applies to Canada as well as to the United States.

Farm Income Up in 1956

Farm Cash Income in 1956 has been showing an increase over 1955. The increase is due mainly to higher western grain deliveries, but there have also been increases in the cash income from dairy products, poultry and eggs. *Net Farm Income*, of course, is the more important figure

to watch. Farm expenses in 1956 will also show an increase over 1955, but this increase is probably less than the increase in income. Net Farm Income in 1956, therefore, may show an increase over 1955.

In this connection, the *Bank of Montreal Business Review* states: "For the past five years agriculture has been one major sector of the Canadian economy at variance with the general pattern of prosperity and expansion. There are signs, however, that such may not be the case in 1956. This is not to imply that the problems of surfeit that have beset farming in recent years are tending to disappear; on the contrary, they are still massively present. But the near-term outlook is decidedly brighter than it was a year ago in a number of the more important areas of the agricultural scene . . ."

The Trouble With "Parity"

There is much talk recently about promoting parity for Canadian agriculture mainly by supporting farm prices. The trouble with this approach is that it confuses a symptom (low prices) for the cause of low farm incomes. The cause of low farm incomes is a supply of farm products in excess of demand at a remunerative level of prices.

The cure of the malady lies, therefore, in lower costs of production and fewer producers. Higher prices of farm products would choke off some of the demand and expand the supply, and therefore would be self-defeating. This is what happened in the United States and we can avoid their mistake.

First Look at 1957 Prices, Costs and Commodity Outlook —

The four to five year drop in farm prices came to an end early in 1956. The prospect is that the upward trend will continue. Unsettled world conditions and the continuing gradual inflation in many countries will tend to support farm prices. This trend will be encouraged by the progress being made in the United States towards the clearing up of surpluses of farm products. Commodities such as wheat will get the greatest boost under these conditions.

No relief from the continued rise in farm costs is in sight. But at least costs and farm prices will likely move in the same direction and the prices are expected to move faster.

Expectation in the United States is for a slight decline in cattle numbers, with little upward movement in prices until the effect of lower slaughtering is realized. Same for Canada—improvement in prices late in 1957. The United States also expects higher prices for hogs in 1957

Dear Readers:

There is contentment and peace around us. The animals exude an atmosphere of quietude at chore time. The peace and beauty of the woods on our trips to work there are steady-ing after hearing and reading of the struggle in other parts of the world. I wonder if we too are at peace with our way of life and ourselves. Should we be showing a little caution? So, I promise myself I'll read that pamphlet on the "Do and do not of Civil Defence" tonight instead of the last four chapters in the book from the Travelling Library.

Maybe some sort of defence plans, or a speaker on the subject, could be a programme at some of our Farm Forum meetings. At our next meeting we are planning to have the local veterinarian discuss with us "Animal Diseases". With the illness of our agronomer, Don MacMillan, we are wishing we had a Regional Speakers' Pool to select speakers from, so we'll be on the lookout for speakers. We hope to have Dr. Gervais from the Lennoxville Experimental Farm when he returns from New Zealand where he is attending a convention on green grass farming.

The first Farm Forum broadcast—"Milk for our schools"—suggested an action project to several Forums. The three local Forums met at the school with the principal, Students' Council and one Institute. They are

Continued from page 15

since the 1956 fall pig crop is down to eight per cent from a year ago.

The improved demand for dairy products is expected to continue. Total milk production in 1956 was almost the same as in the previous year. It will rise but not nearly as much as demand. The prospect is for higher prices.

Feed grain prices will likely be a little higher, moving up with wheat.

It's Results that Count!



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contacting a milk company regarding making milk available to the children.

The cattle got their annual blood test this week. What is being done in your district about increasing the number of herds listed under this test? Here there are still a large majority uninterested in it. The vet. was telling of one somewhat isolated but fertile farming district where they had never heard of Brucellosis a couple of years ago. He continued by saying "They know now. They've all got it."

If I wanted to increase my herd's value and had an unaborted but not tested herd, I would call the veterinarian or agronomer immediately to list my herd for a Brucellosis test. I saw a case recently where a tested herd of cows brought over twenty-five percent more for its owner than previous sales of untested herds. Why was this? It was because these cattle could be exported or taken into already clean herds and therefore a good many more buyers were interested in these cows. The demand for calfhood vaccinated calves is even greater. These are the produce of affected cows vaccinated against the disease. So, any way you look at it, you can't lose by following this programme.

How long is it going to be before we have a province-wide test? We will have to interest three-fifths of the farmers in this before it will be possible. I guess it is up to you and me to do some talking over the line fence on this matter. Anyway, let's put it among our other New Year's resolutions.

My aims for 1957 are to: try some Landrace-Yorkshire crosses; remember that a weed in time saves nine; and that an unwatched pot always boils over.

The best for you,
As ever,
Wally



Christmas Trees From The Kitchen

by Helen McKirdy

EVERGREEN trees have become a symbol of Christmas, with their gay decorations and brightly coloured lights. For children, and grown-ups too, Christmas trees add a great deal to the spirit of the festive season. Food is one item which lends itself to your imagination. Why not prepare decorations which can be enjoyed in two ways, to look at and to eat? A Christmas tree or two will be a stand-out on your cookie plate. Here are only a couple of the many ways to carry the Christmas theme into your baking.

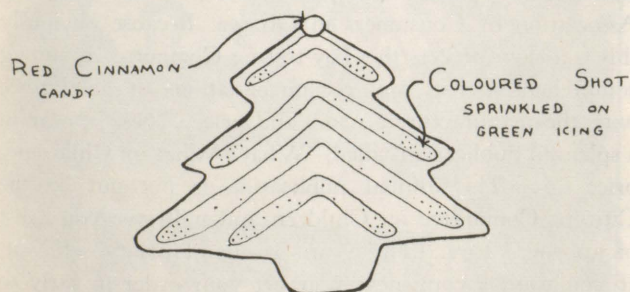
Popcorn Trees

- 5 qts. popped corn or puffed rice
- 2 cups sugar
- 1/2 cup light corn syrup
- 1 1/2 cups water
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. vinegar
- 1 tsp. vanilla

Keep popcorn hot and crisp in slow oven (300-325 degrees F.). Combine sugar, corn syrup, water, salt and vinegar. Cook to hard ball stage (250 F. with a candy thermometer). Add vanilla. Pour slowly over popcorn, mix well to coat every kernel. Shape into trees and decorate with red and green marashino cherries, or gumdrops. Makes about 15 trees.

Christmas Tree Cookies

- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 tsp. vanilla
- 1 egg
- 2 cups sifted flour
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- Confectioner's sugar frosting
- Green colouring
- Tiny multicoloured candies
- Red cinnamon candies

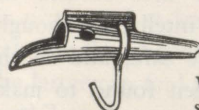
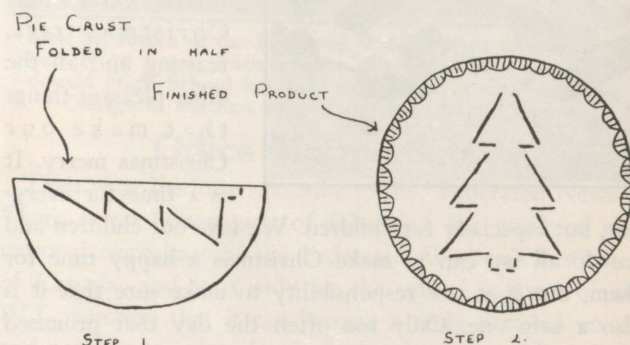


Cream butter; add sugar, vanilla and egg; beat until light. Add sifted dry ingredients. Chill for several hours, or until firm enough to roll. Roll to 1/8 inch thickness. Cut with floured Christmas-tree cutter. Bake on cookie sheets in moderate oven, 325 degrees F., for about 8 minutes. Cool on wire racks. Tint frosting green, and decorate trees with candies as shown.

Christmas Pies

Mince meat pies and tarts take one of the top places on the Christmas season menu. For a pie, make the top crust in the form of a tree. Using a piece of brown paper, cut out a pattern of one side of a tree—traced from a magazine. Fold the rolled out pastry in half. As illustrated in Step 1, cut the pattern onto the crust. Make only enough cuts to allow the pattern of the tree to show as cuts in the top crust, see Step 2.

For tarts, cut out small Christmas trees from the rolled out pastry. This can be done with a cookie cutter. Place the tree in the centre of the tart and bake.



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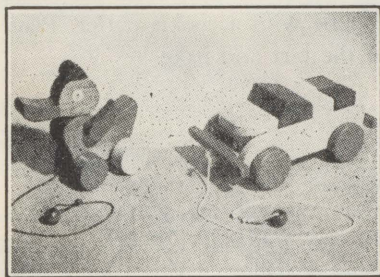


THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SECTION

*and to matters of interest to them
Devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes*

PUTTING TOYS TO THE TEST

by Nellie A. Parsons



IT IS Christmas again, with all its joy and excitement, family gatherings, Christmas trees, feasting and all the other pleasant things that make our Christmas merry. It is a time for everyone, but especially for children. We love our children and we do all we can to make Christmas a happy time for them, but it is our responsibility to make sure that it is also a safe one. Only too often the day that promised so much joy, ends in grief and tragedy, as the result of some unfortunate choice of toys, or fires around the Christmas tree. Parents should give intelligent thought both to the selection of toys that are safe, and to the care of the tree. No way has yet been found to make the tree completely flame-proof, so we urge that it be left outside until you are ready to set it up, which should be in a place away from radiators, fire places, or other sources of heat. *Never* use candles on a tree. If you have strings of electric lights, make sure that all wires and sockets are in good condition, and that cords are not frayed. Never leave the tree lights burning when no adult is in the house. Take a look at the tree from time to time to see if any needles near the lights are turning brown, and if so, change the location of the bulbs at once. All decorations should be non-inflammable, and when the needles begin to fall, the tree should be removed. But if it is desirable to keep it a few days longer, then do not burn the lights more than half an hour at a time.

When it comes to toys, select those that are both enjoyable and *safe*. For small children, as well as older ones, don't buy toys with small removable parts that can be swallowed, nor stuffed toys with glass or button eyes. Be sure toys are made of non-inflammable material, and non-poisonous paints are used in decoration. Don't buy toys with sharp edges, sharp scissors for cut-outs, shooting toys or poorly made tricycles or wagons that may break down and cause broken bones. Millions of dollars are spent every year in Canada in the purchase of toys some

of which do not last as long as it takes to bring them home, to the annoyance of the purchaser whose money has been literally thrown away, and the disappointment of the child who receives them.

One housewife, nettled by such an experience, decided to do something about it and was instrumental in forming a Toy-testing Committee of the Canadian Association of Consumers, with the result that a group of experts is working away in Ottawa, testing all kinds of toys and sending out to the consumers their recommendations. The process of toy-testing is somewhat tedious and long, and is carried out in this way. The chosen toy is sent into six different play situations for a period of three weeks. It goes to a large family, a small family, a high, medium and low income family, and a group situation (kindergarten, recreation centre, or nursery school). Out of these six different play situations the tester gets his information based on these questions: Has the toy harmonious design? Does it muss up the house? Is it durable? Does it need containers or is its own container adequate? What is its interest span? Is it safe? Is the price low, reasonable or high? Is it too exciting? Does it stimulate activity in the mental, motor, artistic, dramatic, or scientific fields?

These and many more pertinent questions are asked, answered and carefully considered by the experts and the final results sent to the publications of the Canadian Association of Consumers in Ottawa. Because obviously this is a slow process the Toy-testing Committee is issuing comprehensive lists and recommendations of good toys, with the manufacturers name and price. These appear in a splendid publication called, "What's What for Children", price 25¢. This annual publication is put out by the Citizens Committee on Children and will give you a list of approved toys. (This year's is out of print—sold out. If you want a copy next year get your order in early to the CAC office in Ottawa).

The Toy-testing Committee frequently suggests make-it-yourself projects, such as slides, swings and outdoor play equipment, and "What's What for Children" recommends a variety of home made equipment that costs little and gives as much pleasure as the most expensive on the market. This publication also contains information on books, magazines, radio and TV programs for children.

The Toy-testing Committee has worked out six principles of good toy buying for your guidance. Try them.

1. Buy with the individual child in mind. Find out the interests and capabilities of the child, his stage of development and plan to buy toys to stimulate that development.
2. Buy with the use in mind. Avoid toys that are too fragile for the rough handling that they are often given.
3. Buy versatile playthings. Blocks, construction sets, art supplies, things that can be used in a number of ways to stimulate the child's imagination.
4. Buy toys to supplement others. Additional parts to construction sets he already has, small accessories to supplement a doll's wardrobe, or furnishings for a doll's house.
5. Buy to stimulate new interests. Baseball and bat, a pair of skates, assures interest in group play.
6. Buy elsewhere than the toy department. Try the hardware stores for small tools, a flash light, small sized housekeeping equipment.

Teaching children the proper care of their toys as well as their use, will establish good habits at an early age. The Toy-testing Committee hopes to speed up the testing process by setting up similar groups in other centres across Canada. In this way it is hoped that Canadians may be saved some of the millions they throw away each year on worthless toys for their children—and to the benefit of the children themselves.



Lachute W.I. sponsored a lecture and demonstration "Cooking on the Run". This was given by Mme. Jehane Benoit, famous TV artist, before a large audience in the Legion Hall. Members shown on the platform, as the president thanks Mme. Benoit, are left to right: Miss Margaret Scott, Mrs. F. Legault, Mme. Benoit, the president Mrs. Geo. McGibbon, Mrs. R. Carreau, Mrs. G. McOuat. (Photo by Syd Drew, Lachute.)



Mrs. St. Aubin of the Harwood W.I. presents the branch's bursary to Fraser Farmer, who graduated from the Macdonald High School last June and is now a student at the College in the first year of the B.Sc.(Agr.) course.

Office Happenings

Does your Institute subscribe to the "Federated News"? There is no better way of following the work of our national organization, the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, and it is only by the united support of all W.I. members that it can become a truly national voice, and perhaps issued each month (now a quarterly), which was the hope of its founders. You are urged to continue the project of at least three subscriptions per branch, one each for the president, secretary and publicity convenor. The latter can find many helpful items for her "two cent's worth" at the meetings.

The price is 25 cents per annum for the four issues. Group subscriptions of 10 or more to the same address are 15 cents each per year. Send your subscriptions to the following address:

Mrs. Harold Laird,
Editor, Federated News,
Kensington, P.E.I.

Sometimes you ask about "The Countrywoman". This is our international paper and comes every month. This also, would be helpful for the publicity convenor. The rate is \$1.00 per year and here is the address:

Miss E. Graham White,
Editor, The Countrywoman,
Associated Country Women of the World,
167 Kensington High St.,
London, W.8, England.

With the CAC

The question of inspection of butter and cheese factories was discussed at the last meeting of the Executive Committee of the Quebec English Branch of the Canadian Association Consumers. There are regulations governing this but apparently no inspection is required for farms supplying milk and cream to the factories. Further study is to be made. Also the question of imports was raised.

We are asked to support Canadian manufacturers. How about our Canadian fruits and vegetables. Should not this hold true all along the line?

The Ceylon Conference

The question of the postponed conference of the Associated Country Women of the World was to be discussed at another special meeting of the ACWW Executive Committee early in December. At time of writing it is too early to hazard any guess as to the outcome. The term "postponed" was being stressed, there was no idea of cancelling it, as it was felt a world organization should not adopt a defeatist attitude, and that country women could continue to work together constructively, even in the face of difficulties.



Dundee branch had an interesting meeting, having a guest from England, Mrs. Bayford, who showed slides of interesting places and historical buildings. They also had guests from other Institutes in the area.

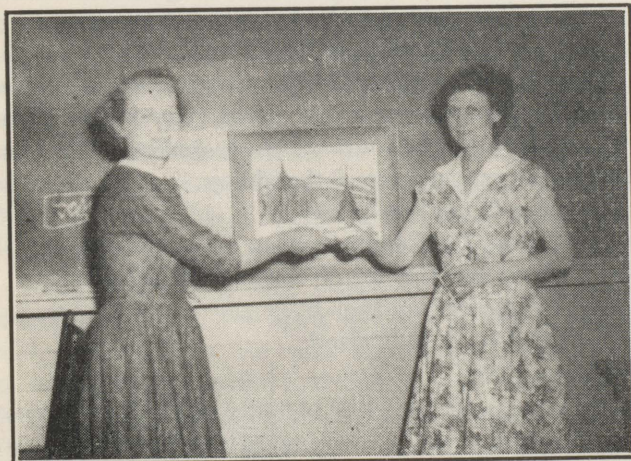
The Month With The W.I.

November meetings are reported here. Remembrance Day was much in the minds of members and many programs were built on that theme. Assistance at Memorial Services, purchase of wreaths and poppy sales sponsored also have frequent mention.

The "uniform" project is rolling along. Since the last "Journal", 21 more branches have volunteered for this service, a total of 192 uniforms.

A wonderful array of pictures this month—Congratulations! Keep it up! But there are only 13 counties represented, where are the others? Try to meet the deadline, the 15th of each month.

Argenteuil: *Arundel* had a discussion on the School Fair, with Mr. Graham, the Principal, and other members of the teaching staff giving suggestions on how to increase the pupils' interest in this project. It is to be continued. Colored slides of local scenes and abroad were shown by Mrs. Staniforth. Members are working on the "Hope Chest" for the Tweedsmuir Competition. *Frontier* had a



Mrs. J. B. Hamilton, South Bolton, receives a silver coffee spoon from the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, as runner-up in the National Tweedsmuir Competition in 1955 (Art Section). The picture, which won first prize in the provincial elimination contest, is shown at back. Mrs. I. Wightman, the past president of the South Bolton branch, at right, makes the presentation.

debate, "Resolved that Rural Life is More Beneficial to Citizens than Urban Life". A report was given on a visit to a private hospital in St. Philippe. *Jerusalem-Bethany* heard items from Federated News and on "Milk", and the Rev. Mr. Armour gave a talk on Ireland. A donation was made to the Salvation Army and the Christmas project is help for the needy. *Lakefield* planned a Christmas meeting, held a contest and welcomed a new member. *Mille Isles* sent donations to the Service Fund and the County Educational Fund. *Morin Heights* heard a talk, "Everyday Life in Holland", by Mrs. Dobbie, who arrived recently from that country, followed by a film on Holland. A "Bring and Buy" sale was held and a contribution sent for the National Foundation Fund. *Upper Lachute-East End* is planning a conducted tour through Eaton's and Morgan's in Montreal. "Do You Know Your Cabinet Ministers"? was a contest arranged by the Citizenship convener. The County Educational Fund was supported.

Brome: *Abercorn* had a paper on "Education in Quebec" and a quiz on the W.I. A bean and salad supper and a stork shower were other activities. *Austin* purchased a \$100 bond for the Bursary Fund, and held a successful oyster supper. A jewellery course was sponsored. *Knowlton's Landing* had a paper on "Pro's and Con's" of Home Work. The Service Fund has been supported and \$5 for UNESCO Gift Coupons was reported too late for last month (project now closed). A bazaar and a card party were two money-raisers and a needy family is being helped. *South Bolton* remembered the 86th birthday of a chapter member. Money-raisers here were a hot dish supper and a New and Old Sale. Donations were received for special and general funds. *Sutton* is doing Red Cross work. Papers were heard on "Superstitions About Food", "Education", "Publicity", and UNICEF. A discussion was held on money making projects and a food sale held.

Chat-Huntingdon: *Aubrey-Riverfield* heard talks on "Women and the Law" and W.I. work in England, by an English W.I. visitor. Members have canned 168 tins



Mrs. Florence Whittaker, left, receiving a Life Membership from president Mrs. M. Davis, in recognition of the contribution she has made to the W.I. over a period of many years.

of apple sauce and sent 50 to the Barrie Hospital, the remainder to the Howick School Cafeteria. A donation of money has also been sent to the cafeteria and to the National Foundation Fund and UNESCO (again too late to be reported before). *Dundee* heard a paper on "Responsibilities of Citizenship", by Dr. J. S. Thomson. The County Scholarship Fund was supported. *Franklin Centre* had a talk on Christmas decorations, a demonstration on making edible Christmas trees, and a contest "Naming Old Songs". Work has already started on work for the W.I. booth. *Hemmingford* presented new draperies to the school, used for the first time at the opening. A silver plaque was also donated for names of pupils with highest standing in upper grades. A discussion was held on the "Colombo Plan" and donations given for Hungarian Relief and the Foundation Fund. *Huntingdon* had a talk on interior decoration. Old and new kitchen gadgets were on display, an old wooden lemon squeezer receiving much attention. A contribution to the Service Fund is reported.

Compton: *Brookbury* is holding a dance and reports several donations, including school fair prizes and the Salvation Army. *Bury* heard a talk on "United Nations" and helped with the Hallowe'en "shell-out" for UNICEF. After listening to a recording of "How the Blind are Helped to Useful Lives" a canvass was made for the Institute for the Blind. Letters were read from pen-pals in Holland and Australia. A Chinese Auction and a contribution to the Foundation Fund are other items reported. *Canterbury* had a talk on Ceylon by Mrs. Bennett and on Fort William by Mrs. Bennett. The Cookshire fair and School Fair were supported and flanellette napkins are being made for the Cecil Memorial Home. *Cookshire* had talks on Publicity, a "Mediterranean Cruise", and "Is The Central School Board Worth What It Costs"? A large donation of cancer dressings was brought to the meeting and a Round Robin started to raise funds. *East Angus* also turned in cotton for the Cancer Society and

rented books for school children from the Travelling Library. A card party and paper drive is planned. *East Clifton* heard a talk by Mrs. Watson, County Health Nurse, on Pasteurization of Milk. A demonstration on the Holgan Neilson method of artificial respiration was held in the W.I. Hall, supervised by the Southern Canada Power Co. A tour was made of the Wallace Plant in Cookshire. *Scotstown* donated jams and jellies to the Sherbrooke Hospital and money to the school. Colored slides, shown by the Rev. Mr. MacIver, formed the program.

Gatineau: *Aylmer East* celebrated their 31st anniversary by a party at Murphy-Gamble's Rideau Room, Ottawa. *Breckenridge* heard Mrs. P. MacMillan, Convenor of Welfare & Health, speak on "R. H. Factor" and "Mental Health" and Mrs. M. Davis on "What Makes a Successful and Happy Life in the Home". *Eardley* had Mrs. F. Cornu, a past county president, as guest speaker on a winter in Victoria. *Rupert* had Mrs. J. C. Hopkins, the present county president, as their guest to explain the proposed national office at Ottawa. A tour has been made by bus, of the St. Lawrence Seaway Project at Cornwall. Donations were given to the Can. Institute for the Blind and the Gatineau Memorial Hospital. *Lakeview* discussed their Christmas Party. *Lower Eardley* had Miss B. LabHumall from West Pakistan as speaker. She is here under the Colombo Plan, taking post graduate work at the Ottawa Civic Hospital. She wore native dress and modelled other costumes. *Wakefield*, with *Rupert*, collected \$567 for the Red Cross. The two branches also joined for a trip through the Aluminum Works. Donations were made to the Institute for the Blind, the Grenfell Mission, Foundation Fund, and school girls collected for the UNICEF Hallowe'en "Shell-out".

Jacques Cartier: *Ste. Annes* is planning a display and sale of veteran's work, done at the local Military Hospital, at the next meeting. An appeal was made for volunteer workers at the hospital and for used cotton. The Welfare & Health Convenor, Mrs. Harnott, explained method of first aid to heart attack victims.

Missisquoi: *Cowansville* heard recipes from an old English cookbook. Three guests were present and the tea collection was given the High School to buy a book for the School Library. *Dunham* read the report of the judges



Wakefield and Rupert W.I. branches visited the aluminum plant and had a wonderful time.

for the Ceylon souvenirs and items from the Federated News. A donation was sent the "Book Fair" at the Cowansville High School. *Fordyce's* exchange program with "Flower-pot W.I.", Tasmania, was carried out. Their collect and motto were repeated, pamphlets about the country read and recipes given. When members of Flower-pot W.I. have a birthday they are presented with a flower. As two members of *Fordyce* had birthdays a corsage was pinned on each and a picture taken of this ceremony in front of the UN Flag and posters that had been sent by the group in Tasmania. This will be sent to the "Exchange". Donations went to the Foundation Fund, the Service Fund and the "adoptee". A variety of brief demonstrations were carried out. *Stanbridge East* had an article by the Convenor of Citizenship, "You and Your Community". A former citizen of Denmark gave a talk on her native country and Mr. J. J. Bertrand, M.L.A. spoke at an open meeting, sponsored by the W.I., on the Legal Status of Women in Quebec, followed by an informative forum.

Pontiac: *Bristol* members visited the Kenwood Mills at Arnprior. Grandmothers were the honored guests at the meeting. *Clarendon* heard Miss Flemming, Household Science teacher, give a talk on her work. A donation was sent to the Institute of the Blind. *Elmside* donated a case of fruit juice to the hospital and individual roll-call gifts were for the hospital, with special articles for the nursery. A sketch of Quebec by the Publicity Convenor and a contest formed the program. *Fort Colougne* presented a gift to a member leaving the community. *Quyion* heard a talk by Mr. Beaupré of the Can. Institute of the Blind and Mrs. J. A. Steele, County Convenor of Education spoke on famous artists, with a display of copies of their work. A weaving course has been completed here. *Shawville* entertained the teachers. Miss Dahms gave a talk on her trip to Europe, with slides, and Mr. Stone told of life in Bermuda. A donation was given the Institute for the Blind. *Wyman* had a Hallowe'en party, with prizes for the best costumes.

Richmond: *Cleveland* had a quiz and a contest, conducted by the Citizenship convenor. A member reported



Pontiac holds its County meeting with Stark's Corners W.I. as hostess.



The cooking class at Beebe was well attended. Miss McOuat is fourth from right at the back of the table.

on her visit to the Cecil Memorial Home. *Dennison's Mills* had a cookie contest and gave a gift to a new bride in the community. *Melbourne Ridge* collected jams, jellies and pickles for the Wales Home. Three magazine subscriptions were ordered for former members and three for teachers to be used in the school. A Hallowe'en Party and sale of remnants helped the treasury. A collection was taken for UNICEF and donations to Foundation Fund. *Spooner Pond* members are bringing donations for the Cecil Memorial Home. White bread for a contest was auctioned off to aid funds. *Shipton* is planning a supper and dance.

Shefford: *Granby Hill* is arranging the annual members' night. Donations were given to the Salvation Army and the Foundation Fund. *Granby West's* Citizenship convenor held a contest on "Canadian Facts". A 500 Party is the money-raiser here. *South Roxton* had a paper on "The Royal Canadian Mint", Ottawa. A supper and social evening for members and families has been held and a sale of home-made pickles. *Waterloo-Warden* discussed ways and means of raising funds for the Foundation Fund. A Chinese auction was held and money donated for school prizes.

Sherbrooke: *Ascot* gave a donation to the School for Retarded Children. *Belvidere* had a well supported flower and vegetable contest. An old-fashioned spelling bee was conducted by the Education Convenor, Mrs. K. Smart. *Brompton Road* heard an article by the Citizenship Convenor, Mrs. D. Cullen on the "Shell-out" project for Hallowe'en, and Christmas cards were ordered for UNICEF. The School for Retarded Children received support, also the Bible Society, CARE, and a parcel to a war veteran. Catering to a Turkey Supper and a sale and card party were a financial success. *Milby* sponsored the "Shell-out" project for Hallowe'en. This branch catered at a wedding reception and had a baked bean supper. Donations here to the Service Fund, School prizes, vegetables to the Salvation Army, and members made 17 packages of dressings at the Cancer Clinic.

Stanstead: *Ayer's Cliff's* Citizenship convenor read items on "Citizenship and Communities" and Mrs. F. Remick gave a talk on her tour of Europe. A resumé of the week spent by a local boy at the Forestry School at Libbytown was heard—he had been sponsored by the

W.I. A committee has been formed to arrange Saturday evening parties for teen-agers to Sherbrooke. Mrs. McHarg gave the broadcast for this county over CKTS, Sherbrooke. Prizes were given in the school to children with 2nd rank and a donation sent for the Foundation Fund. Beebe had a "Bring and Buy" sale, proceeds for the Foundation Fund. A contest was held, with the Home Economics convenor, Mrs. N. Brevoort, giving first and second prizes for hot-dish recipes. A cooking and jewellery class has been completed. North Hatley's convenor of Education, Mrs. R. Vaughan, conducted a symposium of four speakers on phases of adult education: art, farm forums, religion and literature, followed by a period of open discussion. A book is to be purchased for the High School, subject to be recommended by the Principal. Stanstead North had a talk on Ceylon by Miss M. Flint. The Foundation Fund was supported. Tomifobia also made a contribution to this Fund. A successful dinner and sale was held. Way's Mills had a broadcast over WIKE, Newport, given by Mr. Seguin of the Fish Hatchery at Lake Lyster. Cotton was collected for the Cancer Society.

Vaudreuil: Cavagnal has had a busy season with a hobby show, card party, rummage sale, food sale, and film showings. Mention is made of the posters created for all these events. Harwood reports a donation to the Foundation Fund. A monologue by Mrs. Phoebe Erskine McKellar, "Madeline de Vercheres", was much enjoyed.

A Birthday Gift for the Princess

A copy of the child's book, "The Enchanted Wood", was sent by the author, Mrs. Archie Graham, Grenville, as a birthday gift to the Princess Anne. Mrs. Graham, who is a member of the Frontier W.I., has received the following gracious acknowledgement:

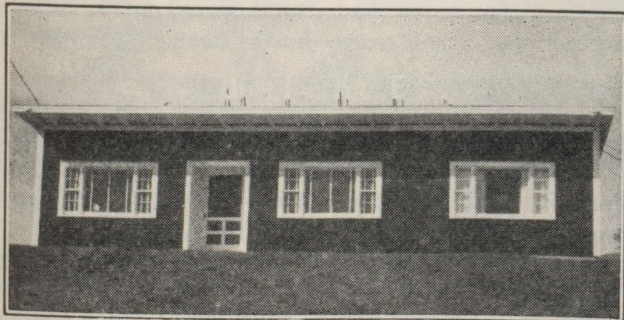
"Dear Mrs. Graham,

I am commanded by the Queen to thank you for your letter, and for so kindly sending a copy of your book, "The Enchanted Wood", for Princess Anne.

Her Majesty is pleased to accept this for Her Royal Highness, and bids me tell you how much this generous thought is appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Jean Elphinstone, Lady-in-Waiting.



Station WIKE, Newport, Vermont. Institutes in Stanstead County take turns with a monthly broadcast over this station and many members attended the recent "Open House".

A Christmas Message

My dear Quebec Women's Institutes Family:

When this message reaches you in the "Journal", you will be in the midst of the Christmas celebrations, all the preparations for this happiest of holidays. What a wonderful time it is, when we all forget the past and look truly upon each other with love and consideration! What a pity the "Spirit of Christmas" cannot last throughout the year. Ordinary things take on a mysterious glamour; enveloping the world is a strange atmosphere which exhilarates and stimulates us wherever we may be. We seem to walk on higher ground.

As you walk the streets amid the falling flakes of snow (we hope it is a White Christmas), in many yards will be found the usual out-door evergreens, glowing with coloured lights, and catch glimpses of lighted trees through the windows of the homes you pass—a veritable fairy-land. Lighted trees are an integral part of Christmas. They are, it seems to me, especially symbolic of the holiday. The BLUE lights, colour of the sky, bring the message that man again may reach towards the stars and, again, try to make his dreams come true. The YELLOW lights suggest warmth but not to the entire world, unfortunately. We must labour as never before, patiently, that by doing what we can, we may live to see this chaotic world restored to normalcy. The WHITE lights suggest ideals, the ideals of human service, loyalty, peace and sacrifice. The GREEN lights give us the Go-Ahead sign to let kindness reach out, with a smile and a friendly word to those in trouble—especially to those less privileged than we are. The RED lights are symbolic of danger, we know, and they can point out to us the danger of becoming smug and pharisaical in this wonderful country of ours, letting others starve, forgetting that we are indeed our "brother's keeper", and if we want to keep our land free, we cannot neglect this thought.

May you all grasp the true spirit of Christmas as you gaze upon the shining trees and resolve to light, in your own personality those radiant qualities of noble living, of which the lights are symbols.

May your Christmas be filled to over-flowing with Joy and Happiness!

ANNE M. HARVEY,

(Mrs. G. D. Harvey)

President, Quebec Women's Institutes.



THE COLLEGE PAGE

The Macdonald Clan

Notes and News of Staff Members and Former Students

Mac Students At The Royal

Students in the Animal Husbandry and Poultry options at Macdonald, and in the Diploma Course, are given as much practical livestock work as possible. But with all its fine facilities, there are some things the College cannot demonstrate. So, in order that their training may be as broad and complete as possible, senior students in these particular courses are required to attend the Royal Winter Fair each November; part of the expenses incurred in the two-day trip are refunded to them. Students in Horticulture and Economics are encouraged, though not required, to go, and if any of them elect to do so they may qualify for the same financial assistance by writing and passing a test on general and livestock farming. Other senior students, if they receive permission from the head of their particular option, are excused classes to accompany the others; they also may qualify for assistance with expenses.

There is much to be learned from such an outing. The students get a chance to see some of Canada's best cattle on display; they see how a top-flight judge works, and by paying attention to the reasons for placings which come over the public address system, they amplify their knowledge of cattle values. They also have an opportunity to meet some of the outstanding breeders, most of whom are glad to discuss feeding and management with them. Many farm boys are familiar with the cattle in their home districts, but at the Royal they can see what breeders in other parts of the country are accomplishing. They watch outstanding showmen parade their animals and get a better idea of the task of preparation that goes into a show of this size.

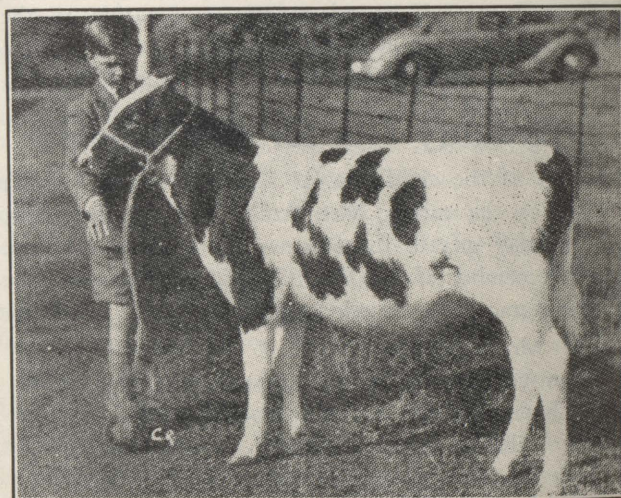
Another group which is encouraged to go to the Royal is the executive of the student committee which plans the Macdonald College Royal which is held at the College each February. They come back with a wealth of ideas which they proceed to put into practice in planning their own show.

A trip to the Royal is an experience no agricultural student should miss, and although all cannot attend, the College sees to it that those who will profit most from

College Buys New Bull

Carnell Easter Lad, an imported bull calf and top-priced animal at the 1956 Ayrshire Sale of Stars at the Royal Winter Fair, was bought by Macdonald College. Prices at the bull sale averaged \$845.

A full brother to the top-selling bull of the 1955 Sale of Stars, he is backed by an excellent production pedigree. His sire, Carnell Hiawatha, is a Scottish approved bull with 25 daughters averaging 10,283 pounds of milk and 412 pounds of fat on a mature 305 day 2x basis. His



dam to date has seven records which average over 13,000 pounds of milk and 550 pounds of fat. His two grand dams and four great dams have a combined total of 50 lactations which average 11,129 pounds of milk and 482 pounds of fat. Easter Lad placed second in his class to the bull that was Reserve Junior Grand Champion at the Royal.

Easter Lad follows two other Carnell bred sires used in the College herd; Carnell Pearlstone, sire of a large part of the present milking herd, and Carnell Hidden Treasure, now receiving limited use until his oldest daughters come into production.

it are enabled to see this outstanding agricultural show, where the best livestock of all kinds from Canada and the United States come together.

Corner of Main and RR1

Moved by the same desire which prompted his forefathers to push back the frontier and tame the wilderness, today's farmer still retains a determination to be independent—to till his own acres—to impart to his sons and daughters a love for the land and to conduct a successful business—a business in which every Canadian has an interest.

Times have changed "down on the farm" however, and, although the farmer may have moments of nostalgia for "the good old days", he certainly wouldn't exchange today's farming methods for yesterday's backbreaking toil—when his job was truly a dawn-to-dusk struggle.

Today, his is not a simple "sow-and-reap" economy. He is an intelligent businessman. By radio he receives weather reports and knows how to interpret them. He is fully conversant with crop rotation, soil conservation, scientific stock feeding and breeding, local and world market conditions, and the efficient application of electricity to

make his work easier — his life more comfortable.

The tremendous expansion of rural electrification in recent years has enabled countless thousands of farmers to harness this clean, abundant supply of power to improve methods, increase production.

This same power has enabled the farm families to enjoy all the comforts and conveniences of urban dwellers—and in so doing has created large new markets for electrical products.

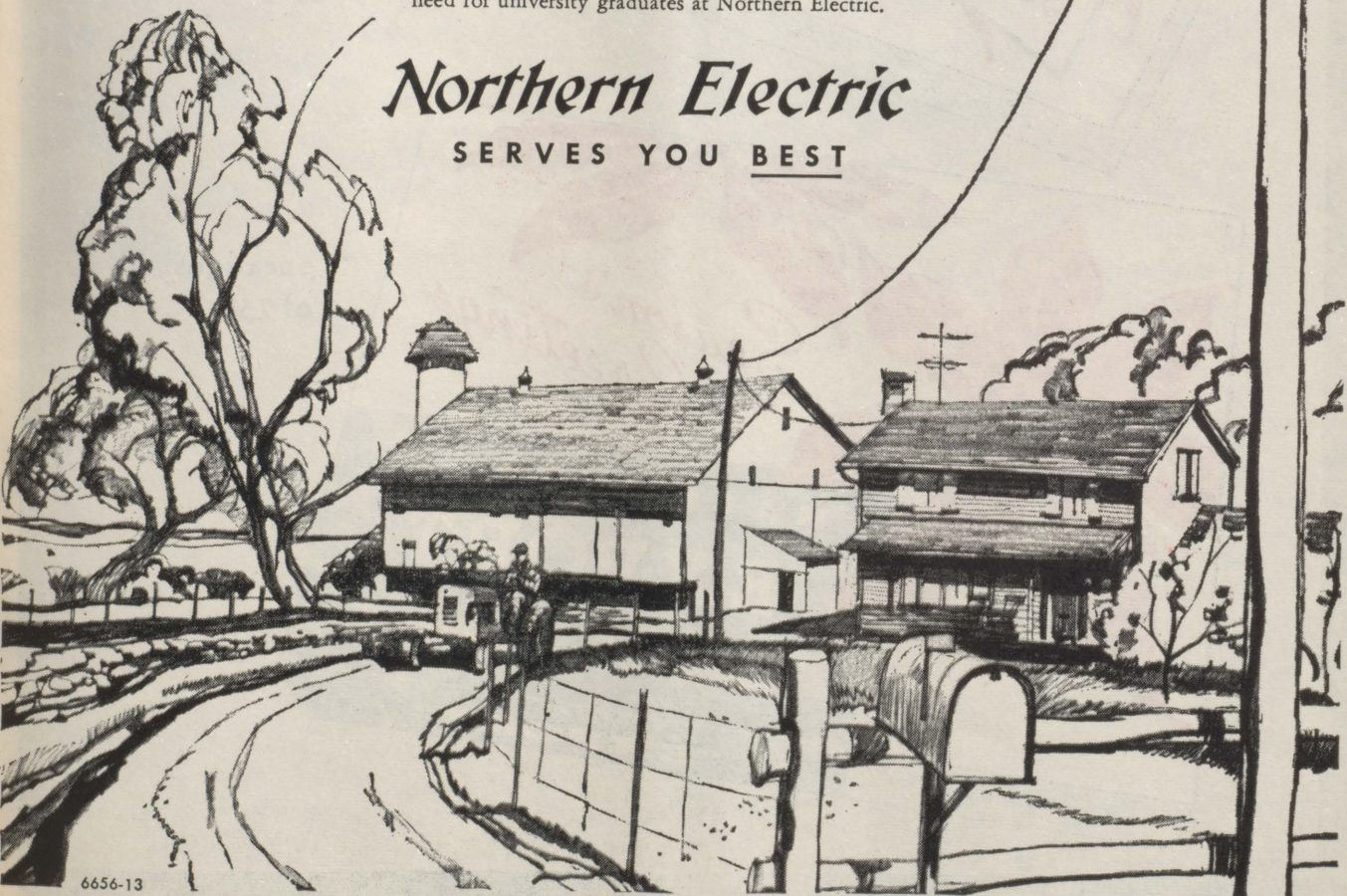
As manufacturers of power transmission wires and cables, distributors of power apparatus, overhead and underground equipment, wiring materials, electric refrigerators, ranges, washers, dryers, television sets and radios—and with warehouses right across the country—Northern Electric has contributed immeasurably to the expansion of rural electrification and the creation of new markets for Canadian products—new jobs for Canadian workmen.

A CAREER AT NORTHERN!

There are interesting careers and a continual need for university graduates at Northern Electric.

Northern Electric

SERVES YOU BEST



"EXPORT"

CANADA'S *Finest* CIGARETTE

*Now in colourful new holiday packs
for Christmas giving*



3 packages
of 20's



2 packages
of 25's